

USFS and SCMF Nurseries



Our Program

- The Ecological Restoration Program was established in 1990 on the Mountaintop Ranger District, with the Southern California Mountains Foundation becoming a valuable partner in 2000. In 2012, it became a Forest-wide Program co-managed by the San Bernardino National Forest and the Southern California Mountains Foundation.
- The Forest utilizes native plants and seeds along with erosion control to restore lands damaged by recreational use, wildland fire and flooding, and invasives.
- Funding is acquired through grants, USFS appropriated and emergency funds, and the regional Native Plant Materials Program. Numerous partners and volunteers contribute to the program accomplishments.

Three Nurseries On The SBNF

Top to Bottom: Big Bear greenhouse and shade facility, Children's Forest greenhouse and tree beds, Lytle shade facility and seed increase beds













Seed is Stored in The Walk-in Cooler

USFS and SCMF staff, volunteers and UCC crews collect, clean, accession and store seed for restoration use. We have a high diversity of seed for the many vegetation communities across the Forest





Seedlings Are Started In Flats

Staff, UCC and Volunteers begin seed propagation in flats. Large numbers of seedlings are started using this technique.





Seedlings Are Transplanted Into Deep Pots

Seedlings grown in flats are transplanted into tall containers and grown for 1 year prior to outplanting in the Forest. Long roots are needed for survival.





UCC, Interns and Volunteers Gain A Variety of Propagation Skills

Plants are watered, fertilized and naturally debugged in the greenhouse. They are then hardened off in the shade house prior to outplanting in the Forest.





Over 50 Species are Grown In The Nurseries

A few of the native plants grown and outplanted onto restoration sites in 2018-2019.



